3. Operation Research component of Innovations in Family Planning Services Project.
4. Financial Institutions Reforms & Expansion Project.
5. Technical Assistance and Support Proect.
6. Agriculture Commercialisation and Enterprise Project.

Donor: Norway

7. Orissa Environmental Programme.
8. Productive Sector Cooperation Project.

Donor: Canada

9. Energy Infrastructure Services Project.
10. Telecom Operations Project.
11. Telecom Framework Project.

Re-Introduction of Rs. 1,000 Currency Notes

2985. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to re-introduce Rs. 1000 currency notes in near future;

(b) if so, the circumstances which necessitated such re-introduction;

(c) whether such re-introduction will have any repercussions on the aspects like inflation, economic growth and fast flow of black money; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purchasing power of the rupee has gone down considerably since 1978, i.e. when high denomination notes were demonetised. The wholesale price index (base 1981-82=100) has risen from 65.88 in January, 1978 to 319.20 in December, 1996. Similarly, the Consumer Price Index (base 1982=100) has also moved up I am 65.92 in January, 1978 to 350 in *Decem*ber, 1996, indicating an erosion in the value of the rupee from 100 paise in January, 1978 to 18.8 paise in December, 1996. This entails that the average consumer requires notes of a higher face value for his normal transactions. The introduction of the Rs. 1000 denomination bank note will meet the demand for high value cash transactions. This will also considerably improve note supply position in the country as it would greately relieve the pressure on lower denomination notes.

(c) and (d) The denomination of notes in circulation, per se, has no effect on matters like inflation or circulation of black money. Consequently, the introduction of Rs. 1000 note will not have any repercussion on inflation, economic growth and black money.

Representations Regarding Loans to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes In West Godavari District

2986. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the offices of State Bank of India in Andhra Pradesh have received representations that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are not receiving loans from its branches in West Godavari district;

(b) whether some branches are following a concerted and deliberate policy of ignoring Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this matter;

(c) the action proposed against the branches and their management in perpetuating such atrocities against the weaker sections;

(d) whether any efforts has been made to contact the Scheduled Caste/Schedule Tribe to* discuss the ways to meet their demands; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?